

Souhegan High School Booster Club

June 30, 2009, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Minutes

Attendees: Joe Cerra, Deb Almeida, Manny Almeida, Barb Nelson, Mike Beliveau, Karen Cerra, Lisa Lyon, Jayne Wing, Jill Manning, Barbara McCormick, Mary Ann Eusebio, Maren Petropulos, Sandy Comstock, Scott Comstock, Kathy Jellison, Ron Jellison.

Meeting Purpose: Joe Cerra, Booster Club president, called the meeting to vote to approve the 2009 budget. This budget was developed during the winter and spring months. There was a lengthy discussion concerning some of the budget cuts. Joe explained that given the current recession and direct feedback from companies that the board chose to cut some items from the budget. These items had been discussed at several booster club meetings in the winter and spring. The budget cuts had been approved by meeting attendees and Mike Beliveau.

Barb Nelson shared feedback from companies that the board had contacted during the winter and spring. These companies had supported the program and specifically the golf tournament in the past. For example, First Colebrook Bank, Walt's Service, and Family Dental of Milford had all stated that due to the current economic times they would **NOT** be willing to support a golf tournament, but would prefer to pay for some advertising that would extend beyond a one day event. They would be interested in the GameDay Program. Deb Almeida reminded us that Dr. Deb cut her sponsorship dollars dramatically last year as well. The board explained how this feedback from the sponsors was the driving force to not include the golf tournament in the fundraising plans for 2009. Instead, the board had decided to focus fundraising efforts on the GameDay Program and the Cash Raffle.

A lengthy discussion on what cuts were made took place. Several of the parents of the 2009 seniors requested that some items return to the budget including:

1. The DJ for all 4 home games (not for playoff games as the NHIAA prohibits music at playoffs) - \$650
2. HH Rental fees for \$1000
3. Pre season scrimmage buses - \$?
4. Senior Day Flowers/pictures – Increase to \$300
5. UNH Clinic Fees – Mike B. noted that this line item of \$100 was not spent, and can be used to offset a different cost item.
6. Practice Jerseys – Mike B. has purchased 25 new practice jerseys as old black ones are a safety issue on hot days. Ron suggested that the 25 new white jerseys be used for the 2009 freshman, and that we add more white jerseys to cover the other teams in the future. The jerseys cost \$520, but only \$200 was paid by the boosters . The remaining \$320 was paid by the SHS athletic department.

7. Coaches stipend – Mike suggested that the stipend be increased from \$1k to \$3k which was what was originally budgeted. His reasoning is that our coaches are some of the lowest paid coaches of the state. Mike feels that we lose coaching staff to other programs that pay their coaches more and he gave some examples from of coaches who have left our program.
8. Banquet – It was suggested that the budget increase to \$1300 to cover food, plaques, and trophies. Several of the parents of the 13 seniors were concerned that given that we have so many seniors this year that we would need to increase this line item. **Barb agreed to follow-up with Jim to confirm the cost of the senior plaques.**
9. Pasta Parties – No change in budget, keep at original (see notes below)
10. DVD Recorder Supplies - \$300
11. Copies of Playbook = \$208 already spent
12. Laconia Game - \$400 budget for food, \$200 for plates

Note: The revised budget items were voted on and approved. However, Jim Luks, treasurer, was not in attendance. The board agreed to review these items with Jim to insure that updates are feasible and that the budget is revised. A revised budget will have to be posted.

A discussion took place about why the program is not running a zero balance, but is keeping a balance of about \$20,000. These funds were raised over the past several years. Mike B. stated that these funds could be donated by the boosters to support the turf field project or a new weight room. (The turf field project is being led by Dana Redmond and the Amherst Town Recreation Committee. The weight room facilities at SHS are extremely lacking. The need for a weight room to accommodate all athletes was an issue determined during the recent accreditation process. The decision was made to table these discussion until later in the season.

Fundraising

A discussion about selling old jerseys at games as a fundraiser took place. Mike B. stated that there are 150 old jerseys and suggested that we sell them for \$10 each, and then offer anyone attending a home game wearing an old jersey free admission to the game. Ron stated that he has about 30 white SV Saber game jerseys. Manny agreed to check his stock of jerseys and determine an official count and see which jerseys should be given to the new SV Sabers (under the Pop Warner umbrella now), and which jerseys could be sold.

1. GameDay Program – Deb Almeida explained the plans and timing for the GameDay Program, noting that the “drop dead” date for ads is August 3rd. Senior ad will go on back cover. Giorgio’s has paid for a \$500 full page back cover ad, and Dr. Deb has agreed to the same ad as last year.
2. Cash Raffle – Deb will print 1,000 tickets, about 10 tickets per player. She noted that last year about 55 out of the 80 players sold their tickets. The Chininis family agreed to organize a blitz to sell tickets in neighborhoods and stores. Deb agreed to follow-up with the Chininis and Dugdale families to confirm the organization of the blitz.
3. Calendar Raffle – The booster club voted NO to this fundraiser at the May meeting

Other:

1. **Pasta Parties** – Mike stated that he liked the change in pasta parties last year...better/healthier food choices, better organization and better timing before gameday. Friday night pasta parties worked well for getting kids ready for games and building team unity. Mike would like pasta parties time changed to 4:30 and have JV and Varsity squads included together. Jayne Wing volunteered to manage Pasta Party process for the varsity squad. Sandy Comstock volunteered to help for home games (**Note----Barb will call to confirm her commitment**).
2. **Trifold Schedules** – Deb asked for approval of printing of 200 trifold schedules. The cost will be about \$14. The vote was approved.

9:00 PM Meeting was adjourned.